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13 August 2007

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QUARTERLY REPORT FOR PILOT PROGRAM UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The 29 June 2005 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), the State Water Resources Control Board, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, and the Agricultural Commissioners of Glenn County and Butte County specifies activities in support of the Regional Board's Irrigated Lands Conditional Waiver Program. These support activities constitute the MOU Pilot Program.

On 29 June 2007, all parties renewed the MOU for four years. As required by the MOU and its renewal, the staff liaisons from the Regional Board and the Agricultural Commissioners of Glenn County and Butte County submit Quarterly Reports of the activities performed under the contract and any recommendations to improve the MOU Pilot Program.

The First and Second Quarter 2007 Reports from the three staff liaisons are attached. If you have questions regarding this Report or the MOU Pilot Program, please contact Ms. Margaret Wong at (916) 464-4857, or by e-mail at mawong@waterboards.ca.gov.


PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

cc: Ms. Dorothy Rice, Executive Director, State Water Resources Control Board
Ms. Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Director, Department of Pesticide Regulation
Mr. Mark Rentz, Deputy Director, Department of Pesticide Regulation
Mr. Mark Black, Agricultural Commissioner, Glenn County
Mr. Richard Price, Agricultural Commissioner, Butte County
Mr. Johnny Gonzales, Program Manager, State Water Resources Control Board

California Environmental Protection Agency

Attachment A

MOU Pilot Program

Central Valley Regional Water Board

1st Quarter Report

April 2007

Background

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on 29 June 2005 between the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board), the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), and the Agricultural Commissioners of Glenn County and Butte County that pertains solely to activities related to the Regional Water Board's Irrigated Lands Conditional Waiver Program (Irrigated Lands Program). These activities constitute the MOU Pilot Program.

The purposes of the MOU are to initiate appropriate interaction between the Regional Water Board, the Agricultural Commissioners, and growers on a local level; utilize the skills and knowledge of each participant to accomplish the objectives of the Irrigated Lands Program; and to collaborate, implement, and coordinate with other agencies and non-governmental organizations to control nonpoint sources of pollution.

The MOU is effective for 24 months after which, upon completion of a review by all parties, the MOU may be renewed, revised or terminated. The signatory parties are in the process of revising the MOU.

The current contract between the Regional Water Board and each of the Agricultural Commissioners was executed on 27 December 2005 and was extended for one fiscal year (from 30 June 2006 to 30 June 2007) to allow for the delay in execution. The contract provides funding for 0.5 PY to each of the Agricultural Commissioners as specified in the MOU.

This Attachment A contains the Regional Water Board staff's quarterly report. The Butte County and Glenn County Agricultural Commissioners' staff wrote Attachments B and C, respectively, which contain the quarterly reports of their activities.

Regional Water Board Staff Activities under the MOU Pilot Program

The Regional Water Board staff liaison met with the Agricultural Commissioners on 8 March 2007 in Oroville. The liaisons maintained additional communication through e-mail and phone calls.

Regional Board staff provided an update of the monitoring data and trends seen to date in the Irrigated Lands Program monitoring. Exceedances were discussed, as were monitoring data for the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (Coalition). The

Regional Water Board staff agreed to send monitoring data for the Pine Creek and Walker Creek sub-drainages to staff liaisons and inform the Coalition that the Agricultural Commissioners staff be notified of any exceedances in 2007. Follow-up communication indicated the Agricultural Commissioners staff was being informed by the Coalition of sampling dates and exceedances.

Program Support from Agricultural Commissioners and Their Staff

In January 2007, the Agricultural Commissioners were requested by the Regional Water Board liaison to provide information of any pesticides applied during late October/early November 2006 in their respective counties. This was at the request from Regional Water Board staff investigating aquatic toxicity in Sacramento River samples taken during that period.

Rob Hill from Butte County Agricultural Commissioner Office presented the watershed survey on management practices for Pine Creek at the 8 March 2007 meeting. The survey used visual observation to determine the baseline of management practices currently in use by growers along the creek. Water quality exceedances, if found by Coalition monitoring of the Pine Creek monitoring site, will be investigated by the Agricultural Commissioner's staff. The effectiveness of any management practices implemented to correct the possible source(s) for the exceedance would then be documented using further sampling to confirm improved water quality.

The Glenn County Agricultural Commissioner staff is still surveying and evaluating the Walker Creek sub-drainage for management practices. Glen County staff is correlating GIS with individual grower surveys to collect and analyze data for its sub-drainage evaluation

Program Status

MOU Pilot Program work was influenced by work priorities of the staff liaisons in other areas. The Agricultural Commissioners' staff liaisons were required to deliver pesticide use reports under their contract with DPR. The Regional Water Board staff liaison was involved in review of annual and semi-annual monitoring reports and preparation of reports for the Irrigated Lands Program.

The staff liaisons are currently focusing their efforts on the Irrigated Lands Program objective of documenting management practices and their effectiveness in protecting water quality. The different strategies of the Agricultural Commissioners' staff for inspecting, surveying and documenting management practices within the sub-drainages will be examined by the Coalition and subwatersheds, and used as a model for work in other waterways.

Activities performed by Agricultural Commissioners staff to support the Irrigated Lands Program include:

- expanding outreach to other agencies and entities
- starting documentation of MPs within county subwatersheds
- surveying watersheds to recommend better Coalition sampling locations

- inspecting pesticide applications and noting effective MPs
- providing outreach to applicators, irrigators and growers about the Irrigated Lands Program
- providing up-to-date information on pesticide use and agricultural operations
- acting as a direct contact for information about the Irrigated Lands Program with other agencies

Communications between staff liaisons, the Coalition, the California Rice Commission and subwatersheds have improved. More coordination in sampling, flow of data, and investigation of exceedances is expected.

Regional Board staff will continue to work closely with the Agricultural Commissioners and their staff to further the goals of the MOU Pilot Program.

Attachment B

MOU Pilot Program Butte County Department of Agriculture 1st Quarter Report April 2007

As required by contract # 05-183-150-0, the Butte County Department of Agriculture (Butte County) is to provide the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) with a quarterly report of activities as it relates to the scope of work for the Irrigated Lands Program (ILP) contract.

Task 1) *Provide information/maps and perform pesticide application inspections and investigate sites and exceedances for the ILP as authorized by the Regional Water Board.*

Butte County continues to update the GIS map data of the hydrological information. This sub-task is ongoing.

Task 2) *Inspect, assess and document management practices used in agricultural operations to protect water quality.*

Butte County staff performed 2 ILP agricultural Management Practices/ Pesticide evaluation inspections.

The second half of the Pine Creek watershed surveyed for existing management practices used by agricultural operations adjacent the creek has commenced.

Task 3) *Assist the Regional Water Board in evaluating sample monitoring points for agricultural wastewater discharges and a list of pesticides used within Butte County.*

Butte County staff continues to update the pesticide list. This sub-task is ongoing.

Task 4) *Coordinate and conduct outreach to growers on management practices that protect water quality.*

Butte County staff provided outreach activities and support to irrigators/growers at the February "Walnut Day and Almond institute"

Handouts and brochures that explain the Ag Waiver and ILP pilot program, Coalition efforts and activities within sub-watersheds, continue to be provided at pesticide permit appointments.

Task 5) *Assist Regional Water Board staff by coordinating with other agencies and providing information and input that will further the implementation of the ILP.*

The completed Pine Creek watershed survey report, part 1, was presented to the ILP Regional Water Board program manager.

Butte County staff has attended and participated in the following organized ILP related function and meetings this quarter:

- 1 ILP/ Regional Water Board meeting
- 2 watershed and SVWQC meetings
- 1 RDC and NRCS meeting
- 1 other ILP affiliated meeting
- 2 grower ILP out-reach functions

Recommendations: None

Attachment C

MOU Pilot Program Glenn County Department of Agriculture 1st Quarter Report April 2007

As required by contract # 05-182-150-0, the Glenn County Department of Agriculture (Glenn County) is to provide the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) with a quarterly report of activities as it relates to the scope of work for the Irrigated Lands Program (ILP) contract. Following is a list of the tasks:

Task 1) *Provide information/maps and inspect and investigate sites for the ILP as authorized by the Regional Water Board.*

A. *Provide currently available maps of the County delineating natural water bodies, constructed agricultural drains and canals to assist the Regional Water Board in identifying releases into waters of the state.*

There has been no additional request for information this quarter for this task.

B. *As authorized by the Regional Water Board Contract Manager, perform a minimum of 5 pesticide application inspections per year based on water quality issues identified by Regional Water Board, Coalition Groups/Individual Dischargers, or the Commissioner.*

Glenn County staff performed one inspection this quarter, with four remaining to complete the required amount called for in this sub task under the current contract period.

Comment: Glenn County is now utilizing the Pre-application Site Inspection process that provides a better opportunity for grower outreach. This is achieved through the Tri-County Bee Notification program located at our Department, which provides the information necessary to locate pesticide applications (48 hour prior notice). This is a convenient method, because most pesticides that are toxic to bees are also toxic to aquatic life. Periodically, Glenn County provides this information to Butte County so they can take advantage of this process also.

C. *As authorized by the Regional Water Board Contract Manager, perform investigations to identify sources of water quality exceedances.*

At the request of the Contract Manager in January 2007, Glenn County staff queried all available pesticide use reports for the months of November and December 2006 to identify the predominant pesticide use during that time. The results were to be used to assist in determining the cause of aquatic toxicity observed from sampling events in the Sacramento River.

During the first storm event sampling, performed by the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (SVWQC) in February 2007, aquatic toxicity was observed at the Stony Creek location. Glenn County staff compiled and reviewed all reported pesticide data available that may have had an effect on sampling results; there was no conclusive result. Based upon this information, staff assisted in selecting an alternate site for the second storm season event.

Recommendations: Utilize the Pilot Program to the full advantage of the Regional Water Board for exceedance investigations.

Task 2) *Inspect, assess and document management practices used in agricultural operations to protect water quality.*

A. *As agreed between the Regional Water Board Contract Manger and County Liaison, inspect a minimum of 5 sites to identify management practices that protect water quality and determine their effectiveness.*

See Task 2.B, below

B. *Identify, evaluate and document management practices that are specific and appropriate to activities and operations within the watershed.*

Glenn County staff has undertaken a large-scale watershed evaluation within the county. The Walker Creek watershed has approximately 24,000 acres of irrigated cropland. Staff has identified all agricultural sites within the watershed and is in the process of evaluating each site. The site evaluations include crop type, irrigation methods, and visual evidence of best management practices. The crop type and irrigation methods are added to a wall map for visual comparison. When the watershed evaluation is completed, the information will be incorporated into a computerized mapping system for review. A database has also been created to input all site evaluations. Staff can perform queries for specific field attributes. To date, 141 (approximately 50 %) fields have been surveyed.

There have been 140 identified agricultural operations in the watershed. Growers are completing a Site Self Assessment Survey created by the Coalition for Urban and Rural and Environmental Stewardship (CURES). To date, 20 of these operations are no longer in existence and will not be available to provide survey information. As the evaluation proceeds, more non-existent operations may be identified. During the course of the evaluation, it became noticeable that some operations; specifically those identified with less than 5 acres are considered home and garden or ranchette operations, and should not be included in the evaluation. Many ranchette operations are members of the SVWQC, but they do not necessarily employ management practices on a scale that would have a beneficial effect on water quality or use materials that could have a detrimental effect on water quality. As the growing season progresses, additional grower contact will be made to correspond with visual assessments.

Recommendation: It is recommended that additional watershed evaluations within the Sub-watershed take place.

- C. *Take part in the development of integrated management practices to protect water quality.*

Results of the Walker Creek Evaluation will be reviewed to determine if there is a need for additional practices to be developed or put in place.

Task 3) Assist the Regional Water Board in evaluating sample monitoring points for agricultural wastewater discharges within Glenn County.

- A. *Inspect sampling points designated in the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (SVWQC) or the California Rice Commission (CRC) Monitoring and Reporting Program within the County to determine if representative samples of agricultural wastewater discharges can be obtained at the designated sample points and at sampling times.*

See Task 1.C

Utilizing the MOU, staff received training from Department of Pesticide Regulation's Environmental Monitoring Branch sampling team. Staff learned about appropriate mitigation measures to ensure sampling materials are not contaminated and proper sampling techniques. Recommendations: Continue to provide the technical support necessary to local sub-watersheds in their selection process based upon our capabilities. Glenn County has been directed by the Contract Manager to provide follow-up field parameter measurements in the event they are identified as being out of compliance with the Basin Plan at the time they are taken by the SVWQC sampling teams. This effort will save the local sub-watershed considerable costs and should be considered an option for other sub-watersheds throughout the SVWQC.

- B. *Provide a list of pesticides being used in the County and inform the Regional Water Board when new chemicals/pesticides are used.*
Based upon our inquiries, there are no new materials being used in Glenn County.

Recommendations: Continue to provide the information necessary when requested.

Task 4) *Coordinate and conduct outreach to growers on management practices that protect water quality.*

- A. *Participate in outreach programs to assist the ILP participants in complying with management practices to protect water quality.*

Glenn County staff continues to provide outreach by attending SVWQC meetings, local sub-watersheds, local Resource Conservation Districts (RCD), and the Sacramento Valley Agricultural Commissioners Association promoting programs that may be beneficial to water quality. Glenn County

staff has initiated outreach efforts between the Glenn County RCD with the local sub-watershed for administrative and outreach services in the future.

- B. Evaluate outreach efforts and help the Regional Water Board staff design programs on management practices to protect water quality.*

See Task 2.B

Recommendations: Continue to find ways to provide funding for the Coalition for Urban and Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES) to further their successful efforts in this area.

Task 5) *Assist Regional Water Board staff by providing information and input that will further the implementation of the ILP.*

- A. Coordinate with other agencies associated with agricultural operations on management practices that protect water quality.*

See Task 4A. This sub-task is ongoing.

- B. Other activities agreed upon by both parties that fall under the purview of the MOU and this contract.*

Staff has attended two training seminars this quarter; 1) the 2007 California Plant and Soil Conference, which contained an afternoon session titled Agriculture and Water Quality – Programs and Investigations. The session covered subjects such as why agriculture is regulated for water quality, overview of CVRWQCB programs, pyrethroid impacts on water quality, integrated pest management tools, and monitoring for potential ground water impacts from farming operations, 2) an Environmental Issues on the Farm class sponsored by UC Davis Extension. The class covered sections regarding water conveyance, aquatic pesticides, wetlands, food processing water management, and other irrigated land issues.

Attachment A

MOU Pilot Program
Central Valley Regional Water Board
2nd Quarter Report
July 2007

Background

On 29 June 2005, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board), the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), and the Agricultural Commissioners of Glenn County and Butte County that pertains solely to activities related to the Regional Water Board's Irrigated Lands Conditional Waiver Program (Irrigated Lands Program). At the end of two years, the MOU was to be reviewed by the signatories. After review, the MOU was to be renewed, revised, or terminated.

On 29 June 2007, all parties signed a MOU containing minor revisions to the original agreement. The 2007 MOU is effective for four years, at which time the MOU will be reviewed by all parties to assess its effectiveness in addressing water quality impacts as described in the Irrigated Lands Program. Upon completion of the review, the MOU may be renewed, revised, or terminated.

The current contract between the Regional Water Board and each of the Agricultural Commissioners was executed on 27 December 2005 and was extended to allow for the delay in execution to 27 December 2007. The 2007 MOU specifies a new contract to provide funding of 0.5 PY to each of the Agricultural Commissioners for the first two years of the MOU, with the provision that the contract may be extended for additional years if agreed to by all parties.

Under both the 2005 and 2007 MOU, quarterly reports from the Liaison staffs are required. This Attachment A contains the Regional Water Board staff's quarterly report. The Butte County and Glenn County Agricultural Commissioners' staff wrote Attachments B and C, respectively, which contain the quarterly reports of their activities.

Regional Water Board Staff Activities under the MOU Pilot Program

The Regional Water Board staff liaison met with the Agricultural Commissioners on 13 April, 22 May, and 28 June. The first and last meetings were discussions on what the MOU Pilot Program had done to date and what were possible next steps in the program. Possible changes to the MOU due to review and evaluation were

The 22 May meeting involved meeting with the Agricultural Commissioners staff in their respective offices. The Glen County Agricultural Commissioners staff arranged for a

site visit with Larry Maben, a local rice grower, to observe rice production, pesticide applications, and management practices. The afternoon was spent at the Butte County office meeting with Mike Stewart, a rice expert on the Butte Agricultural Commissioner's staff, discussing trends in pesticide use and differences in rice field practices between the west and eastside of the Sacramento Valley.

Program Support from Agricultural Commissioners and Their Staff

Both Glenn and Butte staff liaisons continued their surveys of management practices in Walker Creek and Pine Creek. The Agricultural Commissioners' staff will be exchanging surveys and lessons learned to determine the strengths and weaknesses with the two different methods. Further discussion will be conducted on how to disseminate the survey methods and results with other agencies, subwatershed groups, and the Sacramento Valley Coalition.

The staff liaisons have increased their outreach efforts with growers and other agencies. Priority has been given to communicating the results from Coalition monitoring within the subwatershed to growers and interested parties. A line of communication has been established between the Coalition and the Agricultural Commissioners on sampling results and exceedances.

Program Status

With the renewal of the MOU, Regional Board staff will be working on the new contract to reflect the performance measures referenced in the 2007 MOU. The time schedule for a new contract is tight since the present contract expires at the end of December 2007. The Glenn and Butte Board of Supervisors will need to approve a new contract by the end of November. Task changes in the new contract will be based on the performance measures used to evaluate water quality improvements under the MOU, and on what was learned during the first two years of the program.

The staff liaisons are continuing their efforts on the Irrigated Lands Program objective of documenting management practices and their effectiveness in protecting water quality. More coordination and investigation relating to water quality and management practices are expected.

Regional Board staff will continue to work closely with the Agricultural Commissioners and their staff to further the goals of the MOU Pilot Program.

ATTACHMENT B
MOU Pilot Program
Butte County Department of Agriculture
2nd Quarter Report
July 2007

As required by contract # 05-183-150-0, the Butte County Department of Agriculture (Butte County) is to provide the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) with a quarterly report of activities as it relates to the scope of work for the Irrigated Lands Program (ILP) contract.

Task 1) *Provide information/maps and perform pesticide application inspections and investigate sites and exceedances for the ILP as authorized by the Regional Board.*

Butte County continues to update the GIS map data of the hydrological information. This sub-task is ongoing.

Task 2) *Inspect, assess and document management practices used in agricultural operations to protect water quality.*

Butte County staff performed 8 additional ILP agricultural "Management Practices/ Pesticide" evaluation inspections this quarter. Ten inspections have been performed this calendar year. This sub-task is complete.

The second half of the Pine Creek watershed surveyed for existing management practices used by agricultural operations adjacent the creek is ongoing.

The Best Management Practices Report continues to be developed from the Pine Creek Watershed Survey and Management Practices/ Pesticide evaluation inspection data. This sub-task is ongoing.

Task 3) *Assist the Regional Board in evaluating sample monitoring points for agricultural wastewater discharges and a list of pesticides used within Butte County.*

Butte County staff continues to update the pesticide list. This sub-task is ongoing.

Task 4) *Coordinate and conduct outreach to growers on management practices that protect water quality.*

Handouts and brochures that explain the ILP and MOU Pilot Program, Coalition efforts and activities within sub-watersheds, continue to be provided at pesticide permit appointments.

Task 5) *Assist Regional Board staff by coordinating with other agencies and providing information and input that will further the implementation of the ILP.*

Butte County staff has attended and participated in the following organized ILP related function and meetings this quarter:

- 4 ILP/ SWRCB meetings
- 1 watershed and SVWQC meeting
- 1 other ILP-affiliated meeting

An additional five meetings were attended related to the negotiation, development and signing of the MOU.

Recommendations: None

ATTACHMENT C
MOU Pilot Program
Glenn County Department of Agriculture
2nd Quarter Report
July 2007

As required by contract # 05-182-150-0, the Glenn County Department of Agriculture (Glenn County) is to provide the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) with a quarterly report of activities as it relates to the scope of work for the Irrigated Lands Program (ILP) contract. Following is a list of the tasks:

Task 1) *Provide information/maps and inspect and investigate sites for the ILP as authorized by the Regional Board.*

- A. *Provide currently available maps of the County delineating natural water bodies, constructed agricultural drains and canals to assist the Regional Board in identifying releases into waters of the state.*

There has been no additional request for information this quarter for this task.

- B. *As authorized by the Regional Board Contract Manager, perform a minimum of 5 pesticide application inspections per year based on water quality issues identified by regional Board, Coalition Groups/Individual Dischargers, or the Commissioner.*

Glenn County staff performed two inspections this quarter, with two remaining to complete the required amount called for in this sub task under the current contract period. Even though these application inspections were by the same grower, the application materials were different and each location presented unique water quality concerns.

Comment: Glenn County is now utilizing the Pre-application Site Inspection process that provides a better opportunity for grower outreach. This is achieved through the Tri-County Bee Notification program located at our Department, which provides the information necessary to locate pesticide applications (48 hour prior notice). This is a convenient method, because most pesticides that are toxic to bees are also toxic to aquatic life. Periodically, Glenn County provides this information to Butte County so they can take advantage of this process also.

- C. *As authorized by the Regional Board Contract Manager, perform investigations to identify sources of water quality exceedances.*

At the request of the Contract Manager, Glenn County staff prepared a map of parcels near Stony Creek with a list of growers falling within the area of concern to assist in the determination of aquatic toxicity during the first storm sampling event

Recommendations: Utilize the Pilot Program to the full advantage of the Regional Board for exceedance investigations.

Task 2) *Inspect, assess and document management practices used in agricultural operations to protect water quality.*

A. *As agreed between the Regional Board Contract Manager and County Liaison, inspect a minimum of 5 sites to identify management practices that protect water quality and determine their effectiveness.*

See Task 2.B, below

B. *Identify, evaluate and document management practices that are specific and appropriate to activities and operations within the watershed.*

Glenn County staff is continuing to perform a large-scale watershed evaluation within the county. The Walker Creek watershed has approximately 24,000 acres of irrigated cropland. Staff has identified all agricultural sites within the watershed and is in the process of evaluating each site. The site evaluations include crop type, irrigation methods, and visual evidence of best management practices. The crop type and irrigation methods are added to a wall map for visual comparison. A database has also been created and all site evaluations are being entered into the database here staff can perform queries for specific field attributes. An Arc View map has also been linked to the database so that staff can visualize trends in the watershed. To date, 280 (approximately 75 %) fields have been surveyed.

There have been 140 identified agricultural operations in the watershed. Growers are completing a Site Self Assessment Survey created by the Coalition for Urban and Rural and Environmental Stewardship (CURES). To date, 20 of these operations are no longer in existence and will not be available to provide survey information. As the evaluation proceeds, more non-existent operations may be identified. During the course of the evaluation, it became noticeable that some operations; specifically those identified with less than 10 acres are considered home and garden or ranchette operations, and should not be included in the evaluation. Many ranchette operations are members of the SVWQC, but they do not necessarily employ management practices on a scale that would have a beneficial effect on water quality or use materials that could have a detrimental effect on water quality. As the growing season progresses, additional grower contact will be made to correspond with visual assessments.

Recommendation: It is recommended that additional watershed evaluations within the Sub-watershed take place.

- C. Take part in the development of integrated management practices to protect water quality.*

Results of the Walker Creek Evaluation will be reviewed to determine if there is a need for additional practices to be developed or put in place.

Task 3) Assist the Regional Board in evaluating sample monitoring points for agricultural wastewater discharges within Glenn County.

- A. Inspect sampling points designated in the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (SVWQC) or the California Rice Commission (CRC) Monitoring and Reporting Program within the County to determine if representative samples of agricultural wastewater discharges can be obtained at the designated sample points and at sampling times.*

Glenn County staff has accompanied Pacific EcoRisk to four Coalition monitoring sites during April. Glenn County staff has also performed numerous follow-up field data collections during this quarter. Additional follow-up was necessary for toxicity on Walker Creek, and field parameter measurements on Walker Creek and Lurline Creek.

Recommendations: Continue to provide the technical support necessary to local sub-watersheds in their selection process based upon our capabilities. Continue to utilize Glenn County staff to provide follow-up field parameter measurements.

- B. Provide a list of pesticides being used in the County and inform the Regional Board when new chemicals/pesticides are used.*

Based upon our inquiries, there are no new materials being used in Glenn County.

Recommendations: Continue to provide the information necessary when requested.

Task 4) Coordinate and conduct outreach to growers on management practices that protect water quality.

- A. Participate in outreach programs to assist the ILP participants in complying with management practices to protect water quality.*

Glenn County staff continues to provide outreach by attending SVWQC meetings, local sub-watersheds, local Resource Conservation Districts (RCD), Farm Bureau, and the Sacramento Valley Agricultural Commissioners Association promoting programs that may be beneficial to water quality. Glenn County staff has initiated outreach efforts between the Glenn County RCD with the local sub-watershed for administrative and outreach services in the future. From these efforts, the RCD is now in the final contract stages for the sub-watershed.

The Agricultural Commissioners of Glenn and Butte County have reviewed and provided input for the four year MOU entered into on June 29, 2007. The MOU is the guiding document to this contract. Signatories to the MOU include the State Board, the Regional Board, the Department of Pesticide Regulation, and the Commissioners of Glenn and Butte Counties.

- B. Evaluate outreach efforts and help the Regional Board staff design programs on management practices to protect water quality.*

See Task 2.B.

Recommendations: Continue to find ways to provide funding for the Coalition for Urban and Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES) to further their successful efforts in this area.

Task 5) Assist Regional Board staff by providing information and input that will further the implementation of the ILP.

- A. Coordinate with other agencies associated with agricultural operations on management practices that protect water quality.*

See Task 4.A. This sub-task is ongoing.

- B. Other activities agreed upon by both parties that fall under the purview of the MOU and this contract.*

Glenn County staff arranged for the Contract Manager to visit a rice/olive farming operation to observe typical management practices utilized by growers in this area. Contract Manager also had the opportunity to become familiar with chemicals, timing of applications and common problems that growers may encounter.

Recommendations: Allow more time for Contract Manager or staff to spend time in the field.